

BOX V

Background Information

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-1,138,909 (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT) October 4, 2001 (2001-10-04)

Claim 1

2. The present Application does not satisfy the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of Claim 1 is not novel in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
3. D1 discloses a method for ascertaining the control voltage of a piezoelectric element (D1, Abstract), the voltage drop at the piezoelectric elements being measured following a charge process (D1, Paragraph 0084, Lines 6-11) and the control voltage of the piezoelectric element being inferred from this voltage drop (D1, Paragraph 0087).

Claims 2-4

4. With respect to D1, the dependent Claims 2-4 do not seem to contain any features which fulfill the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty or inventive activity.

Claims 5-8

5. With respect to the documents cited in the International Search Report, Claim 5 and Claims 6-8, which refer back to

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(SUPPLEMENTARY PAGES)**

International File Reference

PCT/DE2004/50187

the former, seem to fulfill the requirements of the PCT
with regard to novelty and inventive activity.